

**Position Title: Microplastic Research Assistant (part-time)**

**Position Description:**

We are seeking a part-time Microplastics Research Assistant to assist with the performance of a grant funded survey of microplastics in the Indian River Lagoon, Florida. The position will work with Florida Oceanographic Society staff, volunteers and external partners to coordinate and conduct monthly water sample collection, filtering and identification for microplastics. The research assistant will be trained by FOS staff and external partners in microplastics identification. This position is grant funded and contingent on funding availability. This position is part of the Research and Conservation Department. Work directions and priorities are given by the Principle Investigator of the grant as direct supervisor of this position.

This position may be combined with the Shell Recycling Coordinator position to be a temporary full-time position, contingent on funding availability.

**Position Responsibilities:**

The primary responsibility will be to assist with execution of a survey of microplastics in the Indian River Lagoon, Florida. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Perform monthly water sample collections and filtering and identification of microplastics.
- Supervise, oversee and direct work of volunteers and/or interns. This includes coordinating and training volunteers to collect and filter monthly water samples and identify microplastics in samples as part of outreach component for the grant.
- Train and supervise volunteers in other tasks, as needed.
- Ability to work evenings, and weekends as needed.
- Maintains project records.
- Consult with supervisor in event of any unusual circumstance, problem or question that falls outside of specific instructions given.
- Take on other duties as assigned by the Director of Research and Conservation or Executive Director.

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree (or currently degree-seeking) in scientific field, preferred.
- Experience with leading, training, and working with volunteers.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills including an ability to prioritize and consistently meet deadlines. Ability to complete tasks independently and within assigned time frames.
- Have basic computer skills, including Microsoft office programs (Word and Excel).
- Lab experience (i.e. microscope use, filtration) preferred.
- Current Florida drivers license with good driving record. Must be eligible for company automobile insurance.
- Ability to work outside, in the water and in adverse conditions such as rain and heat (all weather conditions). Ability to lift, push, or carry a minimum of 50 lbs.